

**TOWN OF KIRKWOOD
WORK SESSION**

January 29, 2019

Present: Supervisor Gordon Kniffen
Councilman Robert Weingartner
Councilman Lewis Grubham
Councilman William Diffendorf, Jr.

Absent: Councilwoman Linda Yonchuk

Also Present: Nicholas Cortese, Attorney
Gayle Diffendorf, Town Clerk
John A. Finch Jr., Commissioner of Public Works
Marchie Diffendorf, Planning Bd. Chairman

1. **Resolution ratifying a resolution authorizing the Supervisor to sign the Retainer Agreement Extension with Strategic Development Specialists, in accordance with the attached agreement. (GEK)**

Supervisor Kniffen explained this is for grant writing services. Resolution.

2. **Resolution pursuant to Not-For-Profit Corporation Law Section 1402 (c)(3) approving the Membership Roster for Five Mile Point Fire Company, with the understanding that the members so approved will be assigned for which they have been qualified, in accordance with the attached roster. (GEK)**

Resolution.

3. **Resolution, on recommendation and approval of the Code Enforcement Officer, pursuant to section 304.3 of the Mobile Home – Trailer Ordinance, authorizing the Town Clerk to issue licenses for the following mobile home – trailer parks, such license is for the year 2019:**

Moore Mobile Home Park, 376 Johnson Road, Kirkwood, NY 13795

Owner: John Hunt

Southern Tier Communities, LLC, 1794 US Route 11, Kirkwood, NY 13795

Owner: Robert and Mouna Hartley

Resolution.

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4. Discussion – Amending the Food Policy for Town of Kirkwood Employees to delete the words “Water Building.” (JAF)

Mr. Finch explained there is a policy that allows for coffee and tea and all the appropriate accessories for all Town buildings. He said I would like to delete the water building because those guys can come over and use our break room, and there is only one guy over there that drinks coffee occasionally and it would be easier for everyone and less expensive.

5. Discussion – Auctions International Sales. (JAF)

Mr. Finch gave an update of auction sales since 2017. He said we sold approximately 52 items for a total of \$168,365. A lot of the items were just sitting around and we cleaned up the yard and made it look a lot better. It was noted this revenue was not in the budget but it has all been spent. Mr. Finch said our fleet is a lot better because of it.

6. Resolution ratifying a resolution authorizing the purchase of a 2008 Chevy Silverado 1500 pickup truck and plow from Auctions International at a cost of \$10,340.00. (JAF)

Mr. Finch said there’s a 2008 Chevy Silverado that we were the high bidder on as a truck for the parks department. Currently the parks department has my old blue truck which has 100,000 miles on it and needs some work. The 2008 is two years older but it only has 29,000 miles on it. It’s from a school district and they only used it to plow their parking lot and it is in really good shape. The box has some rust so we found another box to put on it. That truck will last us a lot longer than the one we have now. We should get around \$4,000 to \$5,000 for the old truck on the auction site. The 2010 truck that was in the Code Office sold for \$4,100 last month on the auction site. The money for this truck will come out of both parks and highway since we will be using it in the winter. The money that comes in from the sale of the blue truck will be split between the two departments. There is also a plow on the 2008 truck that we will be taking off and selling. The plow is in good shape so we should get some good money for it. Resolution.

7. Discussion – Brink Road Emergency Work. (JAF)

Mr. Finch explained that Brink Road needs some emergency repair work because although the road was alright after ZMK finished the repair work caused by the flood, there was undermining on one section of it and it became increasingly worse and took part of the bank away and also took some of the road with it. Also a tree from the other side of the creek landed at the same location so there is quite a bit of damage that we need to get fixed. FEMA was at the site a couple of weeks ago and they had some recommendations about fixing some other locations in that area. Bids for the emergency work were submitted by Gorick Construction at \$41,150 and ZMK at \$41,800. We would like to proceed with the work as soon as possible with the bid from Gorick. We did meet our procurement policy requirements with the two bids from local emergency contractors. FEMA will reimburse us for this project since it is a result of the flooding. FEMA looked at Brink, the cross-over pipe on Johnson just above Valley Vista and the washout at Foley Road. Regarding the projects that have been completed we just

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have to submit the invoices that were submitted by the contractors and we will be reimbursed by FEMA. Anything that's not done yet they will have to inspect and approve.

Johnson Road Repairs.

In regard to the project on Johnson Road where there will be a box and culvert put in, Supervisor Kniffen said it was going to be about \$350,000. Mr. Finch said the original damage assessment was \$325,000 by Griffith Engineering and Dan Coleman from Homeland Security. FEMA looked at that two weeks ago and we asked John Mastronardi to give them a hard number on what it would cost to replace the pipe with an existing size and the outfall, and John came up with a price of \$91,000 instead of the \$325,000. Supervisor Kniffen said it's important to point out in regard to the flood that we've heard from FEMA but not from New York State and as each day goes by I think it's slimmer and slimmer that we're ever going to hear from them. We have \$219,000 in our budget for this project so this helps offset that. Mr. Finch requested that a resolution be passed tonight so that the emergency work can begin on Brink Road. Resolution.

8. Discussion – Main Sewer Station Stair Replacement. (JAF)

Mr. Finch said he received a price of \$7,240 from John Mastronardi to design the stairs. Mr. Mastronardi talked with the company that was awarded the bid originally but after looking into it further they didn't have the right materials and their design was a little off so we decided to have Mr. Mastronardi design it the way it should have been designed and put it out to bid if everyone is on board. We budgeted \$38,000 for the stairs. Councilman Grubham said this is going to be substantially more than we budgeted for. Mr. Finch said Mr. Mastronardi told him they are going to look at stainless steel but the design will be a little simpler than what C&C had so it may offset some of the cost. Whether to go with steel, stainless steel or even aluminum was discussed, noting the different time frames for corrosion and the fact that it is very caustic at the sewer station. Mr. Finch said the stairs have been in there for over 50 years and they outlived their life expectancy 15 years ago. Councilman Grubham said it's understandable that they are rotting away but considering what we would have to spend for stainless steel, it might be better to replace them with regular steel and replace them again in 40 years. What we use doesn't matter in the design right now and we could get it priced for both stainless steel and regular steel. Mr. Finch said this was not designed by Griffiths Engineering originally. Resolution.

9. Discussion – Inspection of air strippers at Well 1 & 3. (JAF)

Mr. Finch said the air strippers for well 1 and 3 need to be inspected. We're trying to determine why we're having the problem with green water and hopefully we can narrow it down to the air strippers. Layne would like to come next week to inspect them and they've provided a complete list of what they intend to do. The strippers have never had this thorough of an inspection. We are hoping that it's nothing major as far as the structure of the air strippers goes. This is the only company that does this kind of an inspection and they will do both of the strippers for \$9,100. Resolution.

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**10. Discussion – Agreement for the Expenditure of Highway Moneys.
(JAF)**

Mr. Finch said I didn't put a lot on for this year due to the fact that I don't know what's going to happen with FEMA and what we'll need on some of the roads due to the flood damage. Herb Kline Way needs some milling done and some paving by the railroad tracks. The next area to pave would be North Sunset but we have to take care of some drainage issues in Five Mile Point first. In regard to the drainage issues, Supervisor Kniffen said it was supposed to have been done in November but I'm assuming we didn't because of the flood and damage to the roads. He said the reason for this is so that it can get in the budget for next year and questioned if this is in the budget. Mr. Finch said we will be using CHIPS money that we'll be getting this year so there'll still be money left. Councilman Grubham said this totals \$92,000 and we have \$80,000 in the budget and questioned how that works out. Mr. Finch said between CHIPS and PAVE-NY we get about \$115,000 to \$120,000. CHIPS is in the budget but PAVE-NY is not. PAVE-NY money can only be used for roads, CHIPS money can be used for other items as well. Resolution.

**11. Resolution establishing the Standard Work Day for the Safety Officer,
in accordance with the attached Standard Work Day Resolution for
Employees.**

Resolution.

**12. Resolution approving the Standard Work Day and Reporting
Resolution for Elected and Appointed Officials for William J.
Diffendorf, in accordance with the attached resolution.**

Resolution.

**13. Discussion – Resolution Asking that AIM Funding Be Restored in the
New York state's 2020 Budget, in accordance with the attached
resolution. (ONB)**

Supervisor Kniffen said the Governor wants to take away whatever the state aid is for a municipality when matched against their expenditures, that if it's less than 2% he doesn't think we need it. This is a resolution drawn up by Coughlin & Gerhart and I assume all the municipalities in Broome County will adopt this. Councilman Weingartner said one of his reasons for taking this money is wrong because in order for us to stay below the 2% or below the tax cap, we're using our reserves to keep the increase down. Supervisor Kniffen said his point is we never fought this tax cap program and stood behind it and it's like the Governor is saying now you think it was tough then I'm going to make it tougher for you, I'm going to take away a revenue. He takes a revenue and when it comes to a point where you cut expenses you're not doing the job for this town. I think you've heard me say a number of times there are times I think a municipality should go above the tax cap because if not you're not planning for

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the future. You have to be setting aside some money for certain things you want to do. You don't want to wake up some morning and tell the taxpayers it's going to cost you \$100,000 and we didn't save the money. The Governor made this big deal about shared services, consolidation and the goal is let's make it easier for the taxpayer and keep the taxes down. He's just doing the opposite with us by saying we're going to have a tough time meeting that tax cap by taking that money away. Someone might say what's the big deal that he's taking away \$32,000 when there are larger amounts involved for municipalities such as Union and Endicott, but my point is while we're dealing in smaller numbers the percentages are probably the same so it hits us just as hard as it hits them. The Governor wants to make this permanent. Resolution.

14. Audit of Claims.

Resolution.

15. Executive Session.

See Special Town Board Meeting and Executive Session minutes for January 29, 2019.